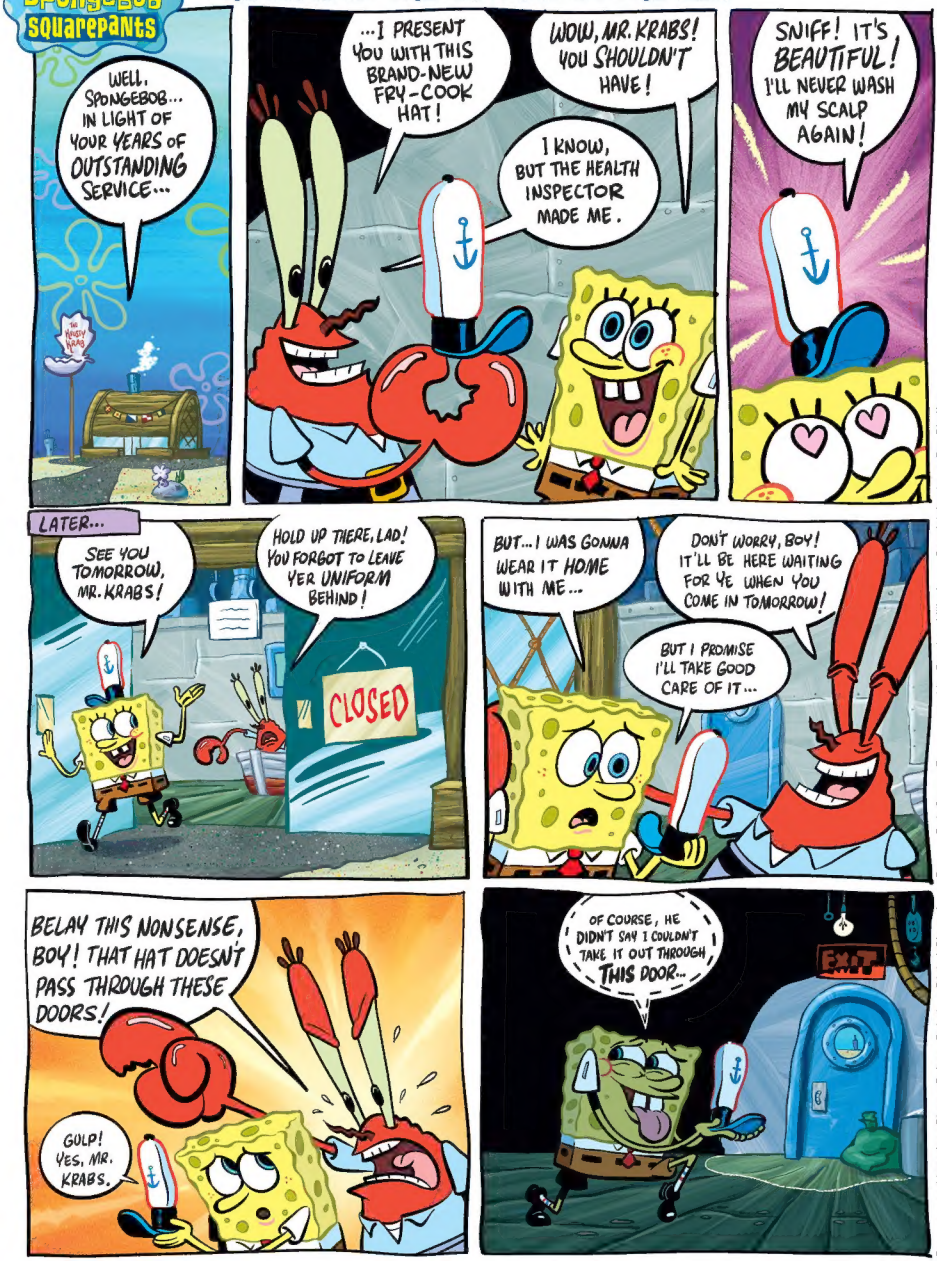
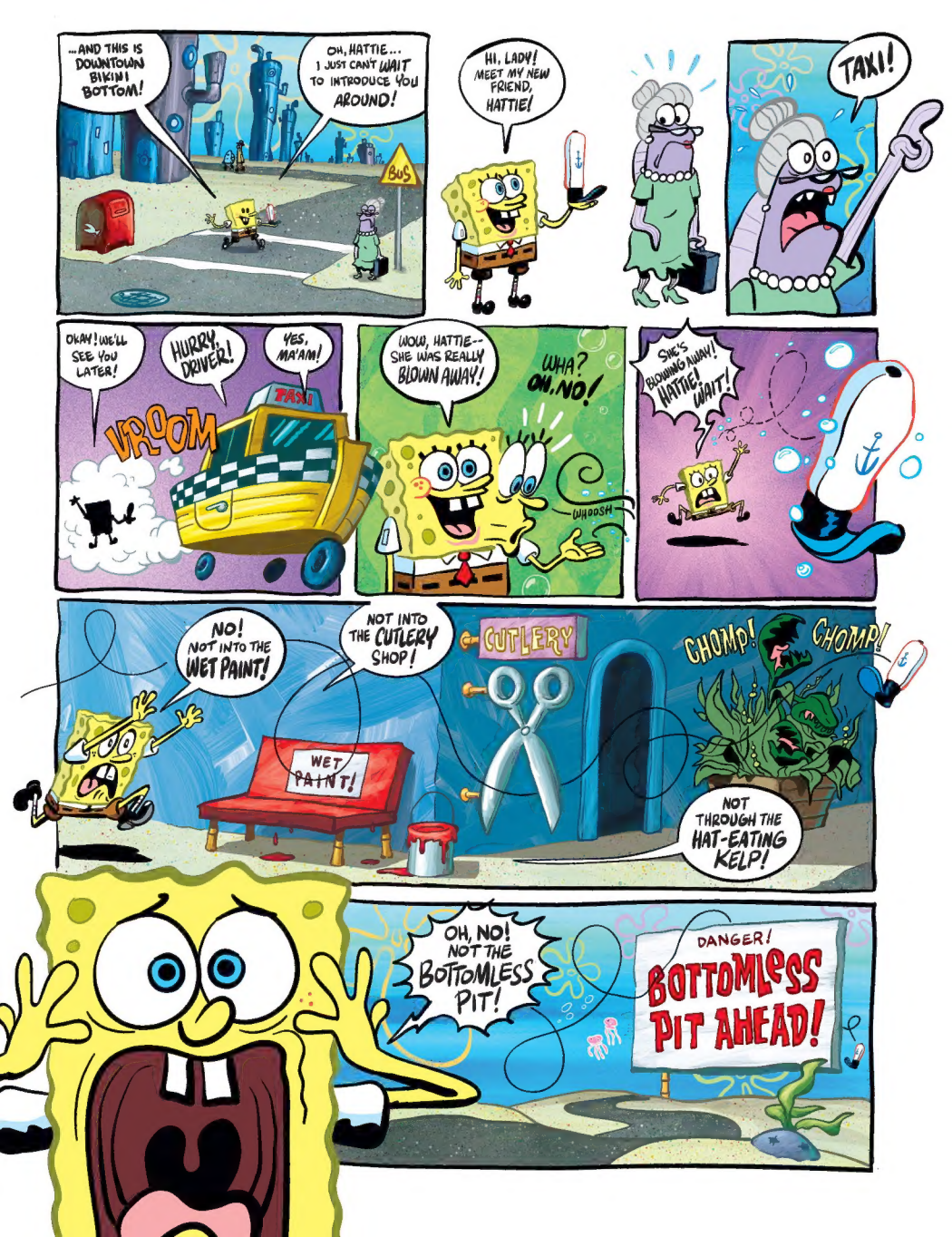
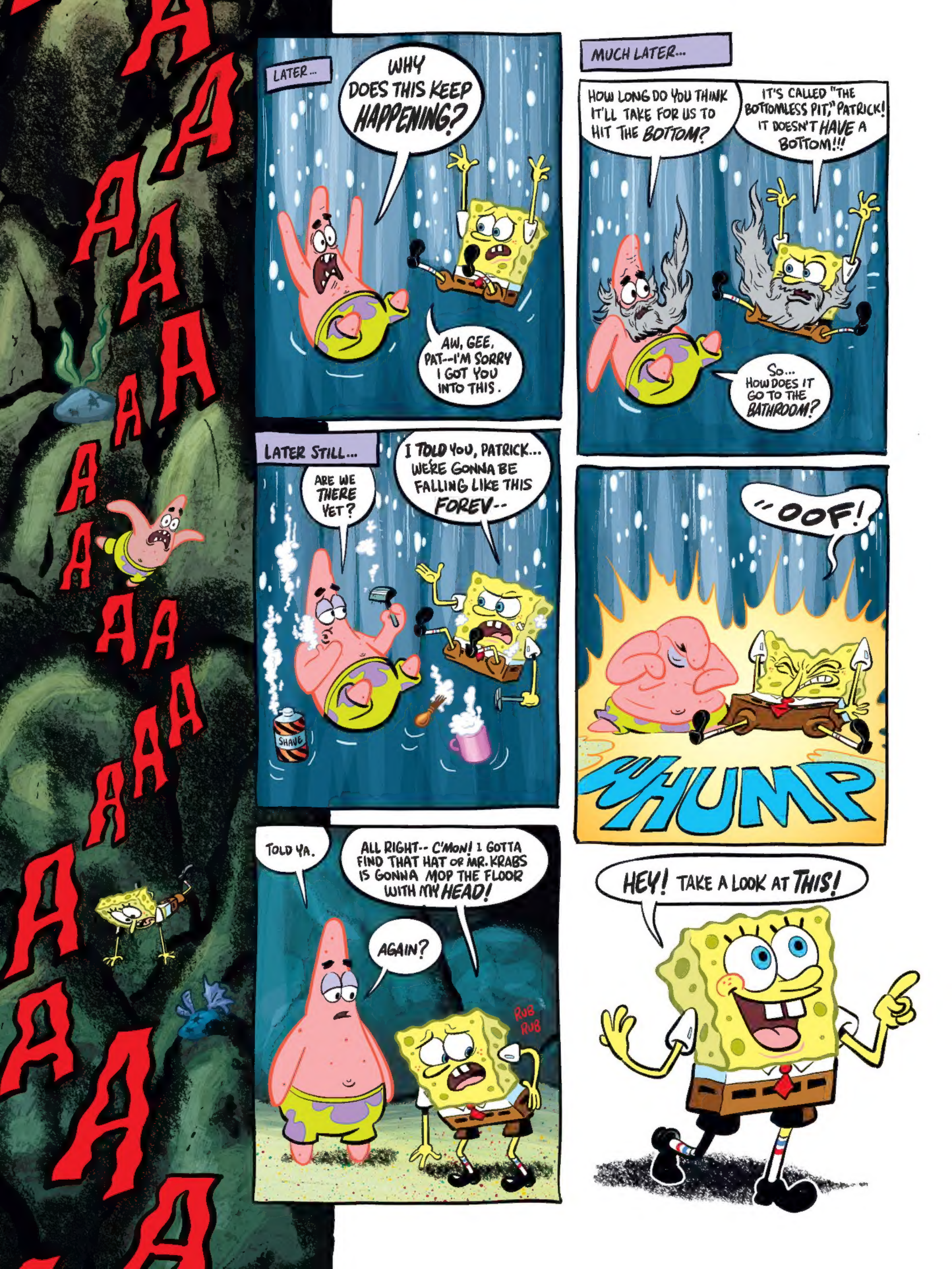
"The Hole at the Bottom of the Sea"



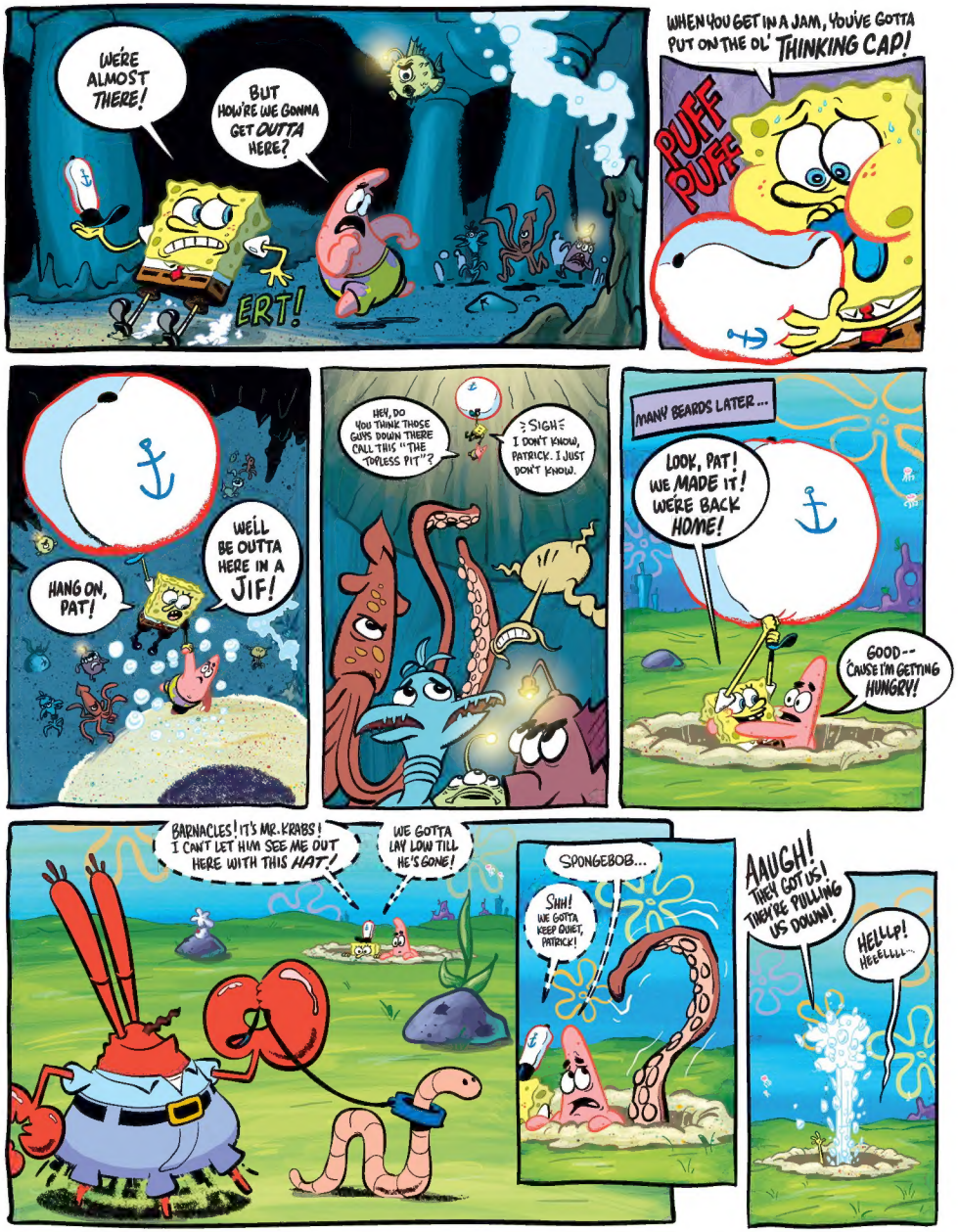
Story, art, and lettering: Sherm Cohen. Coloring: Digital Chameleon. *SpongeBob SquarePants* created by Stephen Hillenburg. Special thanks to Stu Chalfetz.

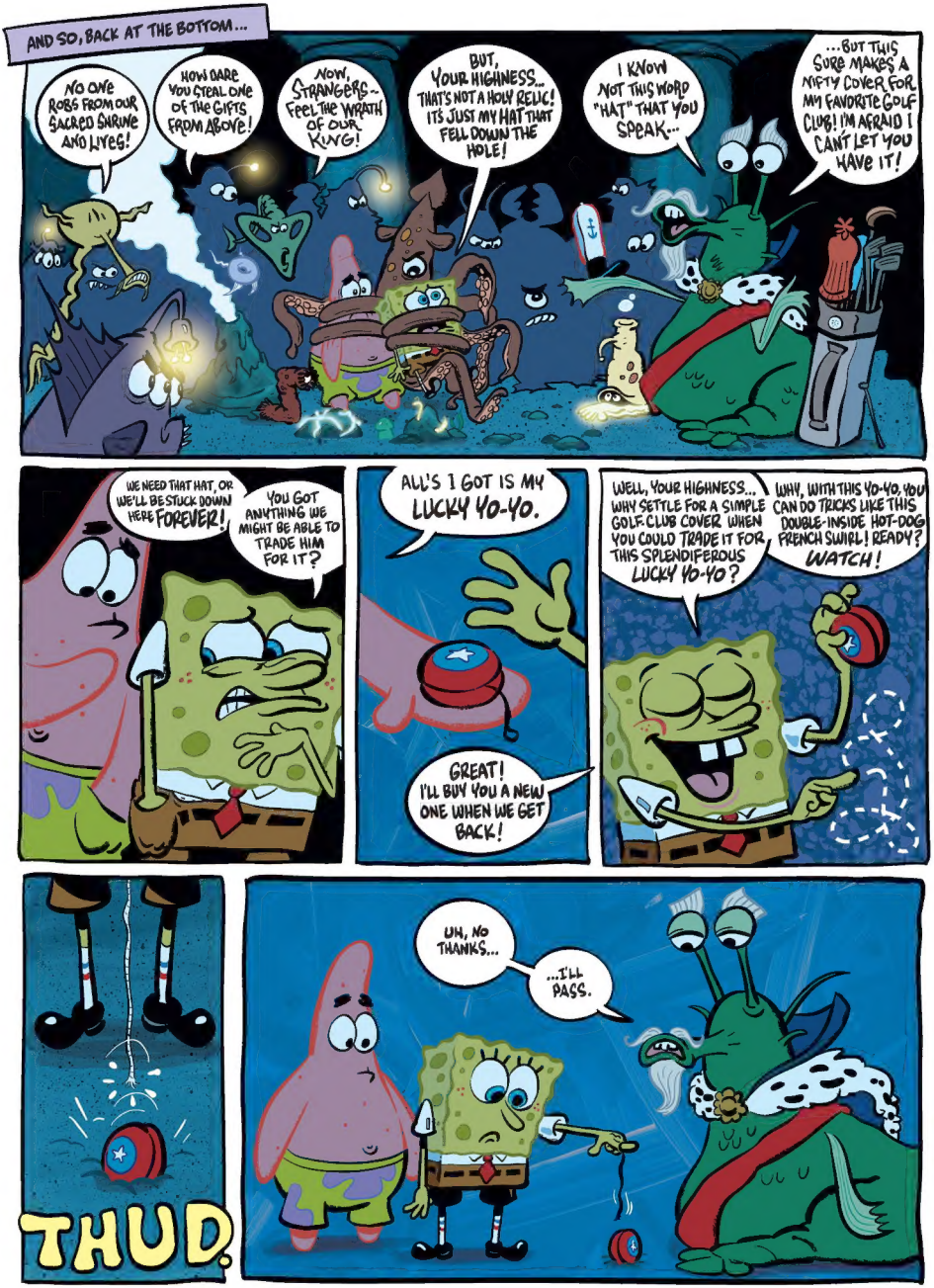

...AND THIS IS DOWNTOWN BIKINI BOTTOM!
OH, HATTIE... I JUST CAN'T WAIT TO INTRODUCE YOU AROUND!
BUS
HI, LADY! MEET MY NEW FRIEND, HATTIE!
TAXI!
OKAY! WE'LL SEE YOU LATER!
HURRY, DRIVER!
YES, MA'AM!
TAXI
VROOM
WOW, HATTIE-- SHE WAS REALLY BLOWN AWAY!
UHA? OH, NO!
WHOOSH
SHE'S BLOWING AWAY! HATTIE! WAIT!
NO! NOT INTO THE WET PAINT!
NOT INTO THE CUTLERY SHOP!
WET PAINT!
CUTLERY
CHOMP!
CHOMP!
NOT THROUGH THE HAT-EATING KELP!
OH, NO! NOT THE BOTTOMLESS PIT!
DANGER!
BOTTOMLESS PIT AHEAD!

PATRICK! MY HAT!
HELP!
?
DONK!
PATRICK! YOU STOPPED MY HAT FROM FALLING INTO THE BOTTOMLESS PIT!
OH, SORRY.
HATTIE! COME BACK!
SPONGE-BOB!
COME BACK!


AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA
LATER...
WHY DOES THIS KEEP HAPPENING?
AW, GEE, PAT--I'M SORRY I GOT YOU INTO THIS.
MUCH LATER...
HOW LONG DO YOU THINK IT'LL TAKE FOR US TO HIT THE BOTTOM?
IT'S CALLED "THE BOTTOMLESS PIT," PATRICK! IT DOESN'T HAVE A BOTTOM!!!
SO... HOW DOES IT GO TO THE BATHROOM?
LATER STILL...
ARE WE THERE YET?
I TOLD YOU, PATRICK... WE'RE GONNA BE FALLING LIKE THIS FOREV--
SHAVE
"OOF!
WHUMP
TOLD YA.
ALL RIGHT-- C'MON! I GOTTA FIND THAT HAT OR MR. KRABS IS GONNA MOP THE FLOOR WITH MY HEAD!
AGAIN?
RUB RUB
HEY! TAKE A LOOK AT THIS!

IT LOOKS LIKE SOME KINDA LOST CIVILIZATION OF DEEP-SEA DWELLERS!
I SAW THAT MOVIE!
THERE'S MY HAT--AND A BUNCH OF OTHER JUNK THAT MUST'VE FALLEN DOWN THE PIT!
I'D LOVE TO STAY AND CHAT, BUT I'VE GOTTA GET MY HAT!
HA HA! NICE POEM, SPONGEBOB!
WOOP
WOOP
STOP! THIEF!
RUN!
DON'T LET THEM GET AWAY!

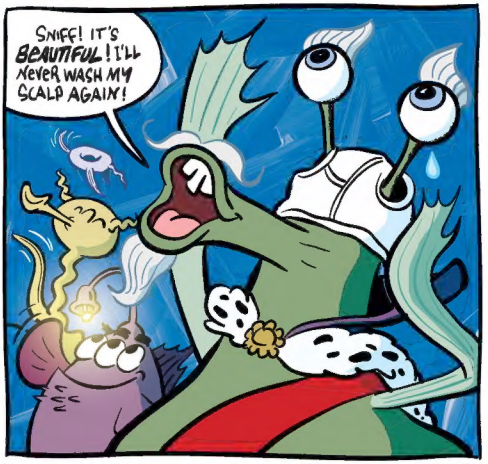

WE'RE ALMOST THERE!
BUT HOW'RE WE GONNA GET OUTTA HERE?
ERT!
WHEN YOU GET IN A JAM, YOU'VE GOTTA PUT ON THE OL' THINKING CAP!
PUFF PUFF
HANG ON, PAT!
WE'LL BE OUTTA HERE IN A JIF!
HEY, DO YOU THINK THOSE GUYS DOWN THERE CALL THIS "THE TOPLESS PIT"?
SIGH I DON'T KNOW, PATRICK. I JUST DON'T KNOW.
MANY BEARDS LATER...
LOOK, PAT! WE MADE IT! WE'RE BACK HOME!
GOOD-- 'CAUSE I'M GETTING HUNGRY!
BARNACLES! IT'S MR. KRABS! I CAN'T LET HIM SEE ME OUT HERE WITH THIS HAT!
WE GOTTA LAY LOW TILL HE'S GONE!
SPONGEBOB...
SHH! WE GOTTA KEEP QUIET, PATRICK!
AAUGH! THEY GOT US! THEY'RE PULLING US DOWN!
HELLP! HEEELLL...


AND SO, BACK AT THE BOTTOM...
NO ONE ROBS FROM OUR SACRED SHRINE AND LIVES!
HOW DARE YOU STEAL ONE OF THE GIFTS FROM ABOVE!
NOW, STRANGERS~ FEEL THE WRATH OF OUR KING!
BUT, YOUR HIGHNESS... THAT'S NOT A HOLY RELIC! IT'S JUST MY HAT THAT FELL DOWN THE HOLE!
I KNOW NOT THIS WORD "HAT" THAT YOU SPEAK...
...BUT THIS SURE MAKES A NIFTY COVER FOR MY FAVORITE GOLF CLUB! I'M AFRAID I CAN'T LET YOU HAVE IT!
WE NEED THAT HAT, OR WE'LL BE STUCK DOWN HERE FOREVER!
YOU GOT ANYTHING WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO TRADE HIM FOR IT?
ALL'S I GOT IS MY LUCKY YO-YO.
GREAT! I'LL BUY YOU A NEW ONE WHEN WE GET BACK!
WELL, YOUR HIGHNESS... WHY SETTLE FOR A SIMPLE GOLF CLUB COVER WHEN YOU COULD TRADE IT FOR THIS SPLENDIFEROUS LUCKY YO-YO?
WHY, WITH THIS YO-YO, YOU CAN DO TRICKS LIKE THIS DOUBLE-INSIDE HOT-DOG FRENCH SWIRL! READY? WATCH!
THUD.
UH, NO THANKS...
...I'LL PASS.

WHY DO YOU CALL THAT YOUR "LUCKY" YO-YO?
'CAUSE I'M LUCKY IF I CAN GET IT TO DO ANYTHING!

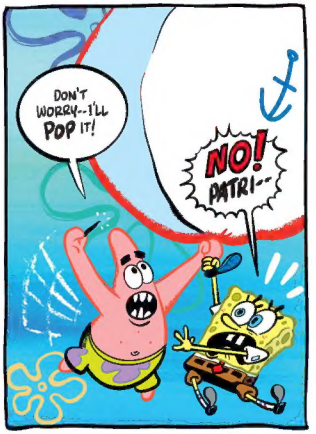
NOW THERE'S ONLY ONE CHANCE LEFT... BUT I'VE GOT TO TRY IT!

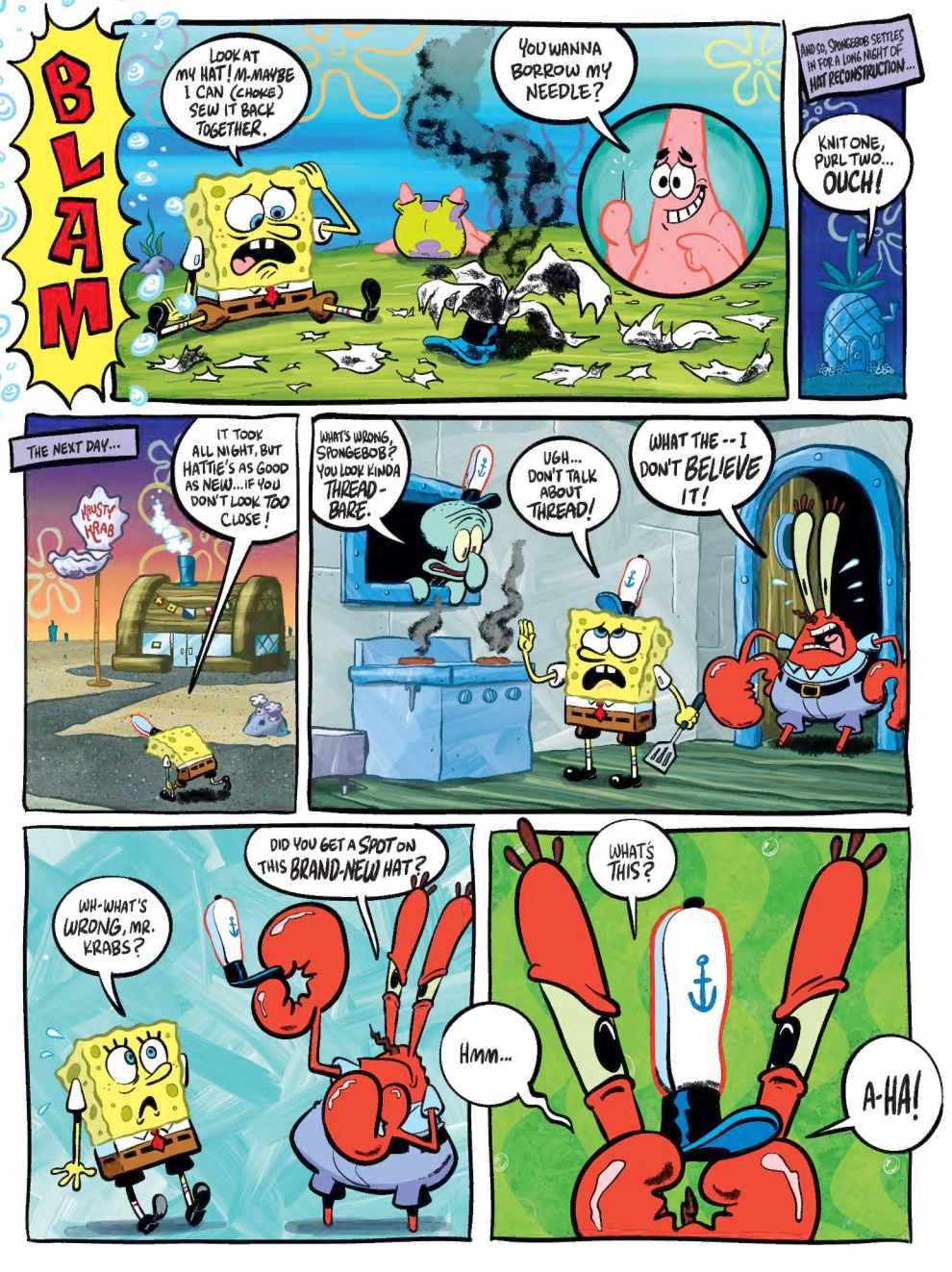
AND SO...
SO LONG! GOOD LUCK!
TAKE CARE OF THAT NEW CROWN!

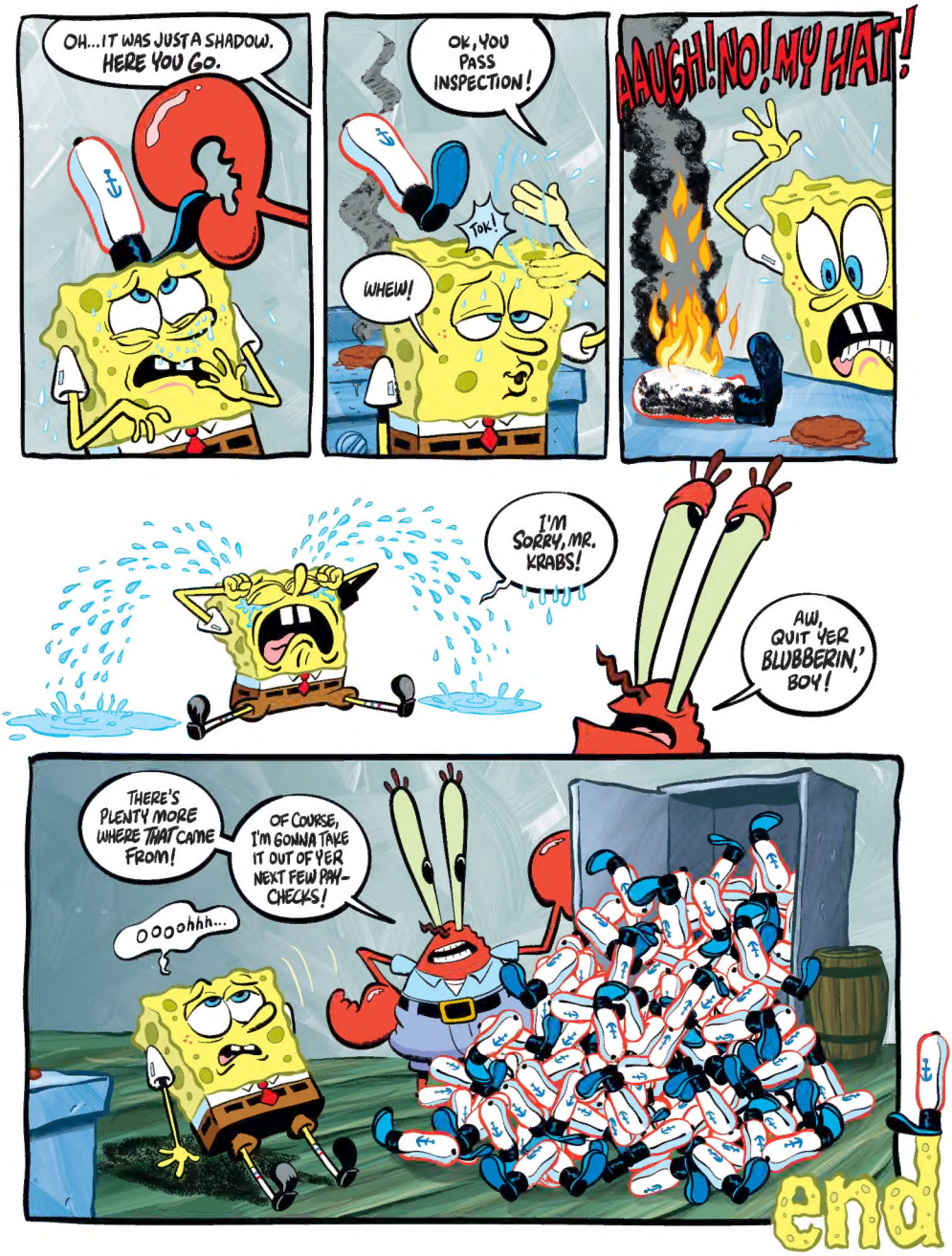

SNIFF! IT'S BEAUTIFUL! I'LL NEVER WASH MY SCALP AGAIN!

WELL, PATRICK... THAT WAS QUITE AN ADVENTURE... IT COST ME A GOOD PAIR OF UNDERPANTS, BUT I'M SURE GLAD WE MADE IT BACK HOME!

YIKES!
WE'RE GOING TOO HIGH!


DON'T WORRY--I'LL POP IT!
NO! PATRI--


BLAM
LOOK AT MY HAT! M-MAYBE I CAN (CHOKE) SEW IT BACK TOGETHER.
YOU WANNA BORROW MY NEEDLE?
AND SO, SPONGEBOB SETTLES IN FOR A LONG NIGHT OF HAT RECONSTRUCTION...
KNIT ONE, PURL TWO... OUCH!
THE NEXT DAY...
IT TOOK ALL NIGHT, BUT HATTIE'S AS GOOD AS NEW... IF YOU DON'T LOOK TOO CLOSE!
KRUSTY KRAB
WHAT'S WRONG, SPONGEBOB? YOU LOOK KINDA THREAD-BARE.
UGH... DON'T TALK ABOUT THREAD!
WHAT THE -- I DON'T BELIEVE IT!
WH-WHAT'S WRONG, MR. KRABS?
DID YOU GET A SPOT ON THIS BRAND-NEW HAT?
WHAT'S THIS?
HMM...
A-HA!


OH...IT WAS JUST A SHADOW. HERE YOU GO.
OK, YOU PASS INSPECTION!
TOK!
WHEW!
AAUGH! NO! MY HAT!
I'M SORRY, MR. KRABS!
AW, QUIT YER BLUBBERIN', BOY!
THERE'S PLENTY MORE WHERE THAT CAME FROM!
OF COURSE, I'M GONNA TAKE IT OUT OF YER NEXT FEW PAY-CHECKS!
OOOOhhh...
end